



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Green River District, Price Field Office  
125 South 600 West  
Price, UT 84501

<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price.html>



JUL 20 2012

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
UTU-73335 (Logical Mining Unit)  
U-5287 (Lead Mine Lease)  
U-50044  
UTU-86038  
3482(UTG023)

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
#7010-1060-0001-1119-3696

Mr. Randy B. Stockdale  
Senior Land Agent  
CNX Land Resources, Inc.  
P. O. Box 639  
Route 148 North, Operations Office  
Sesser, Illinois 62884

RECEIVED  
JUL 23 2012  
DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Re: Minor Modification to Resource Recovery and Protection Plan, Change in Operations,  
Emery Deep Mine, Consolidation Coal Company

On June 26, 2012, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Utah State Office, received from CNX Land Resources (Consol) a formal notice of change in the level of operations at the mine. The Price Field Office has jurisdictional authority for operations on Federal coal leases and will address this notice of change set forth in regulations at 43 CFR 3480 for operations on Federal coal leases. The mine has a Logical Mining Unit (LMU) that consists of a majority of private coal lands and two federal coal leases, U-5287 and U-50044. There is also a stand-alone federal lease, UTU-86038, that is not in the LMU.

**Background:** Consol ceased coal production in December 2010 due to market conditions which resulted in a "warm idling" status for the mine. The BLM approved this status based on changing an existing resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2). Ceasing resource recovery of Federal coal due to negative economic and market conditions is an acceptable reason to modify the R2P2.

**Consol's proposed change in operations under resource protection:** Since economic and market conditions have not improved over time, Consol proposes to block access with stoppings at the portal and suspend all maintenance activities in the mine. All mobile equipment will be removed from underground and power to the mine workings will be shut off which will suspend ventilation, communication and underground water pumping systems.

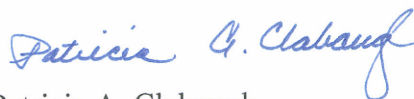
**Conditions for Approval:** In order for Consol to be in compliance with R2P2 requirements, a plan must be submitted to the BLM showing how the remaining federal resources will be protected. The plan will require BLM approval before the mine implements any sealing plan.

The plan needs to consider the following:

- Location of the stoppings (block walls) proposed for sealing the mine (number and locations shown on map, how far from "daylight" in each portal, basic dimensions, etc.)
- Construction material and methodology (hollow or solid block, pilaster, hitched into floor and ribs, etc.) used for the stoppings
- Identification of stoppings containing any sampling tubes or p-traps and their locations
- Water pumping and monitoring plan
- Map of the peizometric surface with and without water pumping
- Site security measures for public safety (fencing, signage, cameras, on-site security personnel, etc.)
- An underground map showing the location of any equipment or materials left on the federal leases
- A "Resumption of Operations" plan containing a schedule for notifying government authorities of a start-up in advance including a map showing current face locations and which section(s) currently projected to begin mining first
- A "True up" of remaining reserves in the LMU (federal and non-federal) and the Miller Canyon lease.

Please submit this information as soon as possible so that we can begin the process of modifying the R2P2. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Rigby at 435-636-3604.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Clabaugh  
Field Manager

cc: Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

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P.O. Box 527  
Emery, Utah 84522

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
P. O. Box 25367  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0376